

DETAILED ACTION

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The present invention is directed to a coated loudspeaker diaphragm. Independent claim 1 identifies the uniquely distinct feature of a coating formed on at least one surface of the conical region and the cylindrical region where the coating tapers in the conical region and where the coating is a uniform thickness in the cylindrical region in combination with all the disclosed limitations of claim 1. Independent claim 15 identifies the uniquely distinct feature of a coating on a loudspeaker diaphragm where the coating in at least the transition region between the conical region and the cylindrical region is tapered in combination with all the disclosed limitations of claim 15. Independent claim 26 identifies the uniquely distinct feature of a coating which tapers from a maximum value of the conical portion of a diaphragm to a minimum value on the cylindrical portion of the diaphragm in combination with all the disclosed limitations of claim 26. The closest prior art, Hawley (US 1715598) discloses a loudspeaker diaphragm comprising a continuous coating applied to the inner and outer surfaces of the diaphragm but fails to teach the coating continues to the cylindrical region or any taper in the coating; and Persson (GB 369,992) teaches a tapered coating on the conical region of the diaphragm but fails to teach the coating continues to the cylindrical region. The prior art fails to anticipate or render the independent claims obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BRIAN ENSEY whose telephone number is (571)272-7496. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 6:00 AM - 2:30 PM.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Va. 22313-1450

Or faxed to:

(571) 273-8300, for formal communications intended for entry and for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT".
Hand-delivered responses should be brought to:

Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Arlington, VA 22314

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis Kuntz can be reached on 571-272-7499. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Brian Ensey/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2614
January 16, 2009